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3. OPEC Meeting in Riyadh. Crown Prince Faysal opened OPEC meeting in Riyadh on December 25, welcoming delegates with speech which stressed moderation. One day's recess was arranged, both to permit Christian delegates to enjoy Christmas holiday, and also to give other OPEC delegations opportunity to see other places in Kingdom, in particular oil installations in Eastern Province. Committees were formed to examine proposals made by Iranian consortium and Aramco in response OPEC demands, as well as for other questions. Results these meetings, as well as special meetings between chief delegates, were kept confidential. Meeting drew to close, appeared that as many as five governments were supporting moderate position advocated by Iran, which opposed punitive action by OPEC governments against producing companies. Reportedly opposed to Iranian position were Iraq, Indonesia and Venezuela. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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4. International News. The following international developments received more than routine coverage: a) crises in Aden and the Saudi Arabian Federation. b) the Cyprus crisis. c) the US 7th Fleet extending operations to Indian Ocean and reactions thereto in Southeast Asia. d) Chou en-Lai's North African visits. e) Cabinet crisis in Greece. f) President Johnson's meeting with Chancellor Erhard in Texas. g) House of representatives approving Johnson's Foreign Aid Bill in the amount of three-thousand-million dollars. (UNCLASSIFIED)

5. King Sa'ud. The Saudi Radio and Press continued to confine news about the King to purely ceremonial and protocol items. (UNCLASSIFIED)

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FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

Richard W. Murphy
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Second Secretary of Embassy

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DEPARTMENT PASS:

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ADEN, AMMAN, ANKARA, BAGHDAD (2), BEIRUT, BEIRUT FOR MELG,
BONN FOR CINCUSAFE, CAIRO, DAMASCUS, FRANKFURT FOR LINDSEY
AIR STATION, ATTN: DSC INTELLIGENCE IDCA, HEADQUARTERS,
USAREUR HEIDELBERG, KARACHI, KHARTOUM, KUWAIT, LONDON FOR
CINCNELM, RABAT, TAIZ, TEHRAN, PARIS, PARIS FOR CINGEUR,
SMARA, TEL AVIV, TRIPOLI, JERUSALEM, POLAD CINGSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA

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